The Weekly News Letter is published by authority and instruction of the St. Louis Convention of the American Federation of Labor, and is furnished weekly free of cost to all official labor and reform publications.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information as will benefit the trade union movement.

Entered as second-class matter, September 4, 1911, at the Post-office at Washington, D. C., under the act of August 24, 1912.

VOL. 3. NO. 25 WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1913. WHOLE NO. 129

COUNCIL MEETING.

Washington, Sept. 20.—The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor convenes in regular quarterly session in this city, beginning September 22. The sessions will continue during the entire week.

HOW LIVING INCREASED.

Washington, Sept. 20.—The Bureau of Labor has just issued a report illustrating in a striking and forcible manner the extraordinary increase in living expenses for the period of twenty-three years and four months, 1890 to April, 1903. It covers fifteen articles, that represent approximately two-thirds of the expenditure for food by the average workingman's family, and reports of retail prices are included from thirty-nine industrial cities, in which live one-fifth of the population of the United States. The increase in several expenses, as will be observed, is more than 100 per cent. The following table shows a percentage of increase, and will, no doubt, be read with very much interest:

Articles.	1890.	April. 1913.
Sirloin steak	99.3	172.7
Round steak	97.6	199.1
Rib roast	98.7	173.4
Pork chops	96.5	218.0
Bacon, smoked	96.5	222.9
Ham, smoked	93.3	178.1
Lard, pure	98.5	166.8
Hens	102.8	179.7
Flour, wheat	110.2	127.2
Cornmeal	101.3	155.1
Eggs, strictly fresh	100.3	126.4
Butter, creamery	99.2	161.3
Potatoes, Irish	109.0	119.2
Sugar, granulated	120.8	92.7
Milk, fresh	100.4	139.4

HOD CARRIERS GET INCREASE.

Pittsburgh, Sept. 20.—Disputes between the Builders' Exchange and the Builders' Trades Council, which have caused much trouble for both sides for several weeks, has been settled satisfactorily. It was agreed by representatives from each organization that all differences shall be settled by a permanent board of arbitrators to be selected by both sides. This will prevent any future cessation of work while differences between the builders and the workmen are being adjusted. The Builders' Exchange recognizes the unions and agrees to pay hod carriers and mixers 40 cents an hour, and that a day's work shall constitute eight and one-half hours, provided the workmen report half an hour early so as to have brick and mortar ready for the bricklayers when they arrive. Laborers are to receive 25 cents an hour and nine hours shall constitute a day's work. This agreement is satisfactory to all concerned, and the workmen and the builders are pleased with the plan to arbitrate all their differences.

WANT TO BUILD AUTOMOBILES.

Cleveland, Ohio, Sept. 20.—It is reported that leading Standard Oil stockholders are preparing to take over three of the largest automobile factories in the United States. A dispatch from Columbus announces the fact that the Rockefeller Motor Company has been incorporated and that its principle place of business will be in this city. The automobile industry is closely related to Standard Oil interests, for the various companies produce most of the gasoline. It is said to be the purpose of these intending purchasers to market cars at prices varying from $350 to $1,000, making their profit by lopping off the agents and advertising, now such an important part of the automobile companies' equipment. And the problems of decreasing gasoline production and increasing use of gasoline by automobiles, so difficult for the person owning an automobile, may be simplified by these old heads in the oil business.

TO REPEAL CHILD LABOR LAW.

Boston, Mass., Sept. 20.—Special hearings in textile centers of the Bay State, beginning at New Bedford, will be held to hear opinions on the new child labor law by the special committee of the House of Representatives, appointed to investigate conditions surrounding the employment of women and children in Massachusetts. Since the law went into effect, September 1, hundreds of minors are said to have been discharged in Lawrence and Lowell. Representatives Sanborn of Lawrence, and Achin of Lowell, said in view of the fact many employers have absolutely refused to continue the employment of minors under the restrictions imposed, they felt it would be better to repeal the statute than work women and children eight hours a day.

COREMAKERS ON STRIKE.

St. Louis, Sept. 20.—Five hundred coremakers employed at the foundry of the Commonwealth Steel Company at Granite City, Ill., struck yesterday. Men from a colony of foreigners rushed to take their places, and trouble resulted in which several were hurt. The strike was the culmination of a long series of grievances on the part of the employes of the mills. The men complained that they had been unjustly treated by watchmen. Monday a committee of the coremakers called on the management and asked recognition. No demand for a wage increase had been made.

GETTING TOGETHER.

Milwaukee, Wis., Sept. 20.—Officers of four labor unions, representing 230,000 railroad employes, will meet here about October 15 to plan a general move for higher wages and improved working conditions. The unions to be represented are the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, and the Order of Railway Conductors. The meeting here will be preliminary to action by each separate organization.

LIST CONTINUES TO GROW.

Burlington, N. J., Sept. 20.—Three employes of the United States Cast Iron Pipe Foundry were hurt, one seriously, when a flask of pig iron toppled over on them. Frank Traenlezny was badly crushed and removed to Cooper Hospital, Camden. Martin Wheat and Walter Chimnsky were injured about the head. The men had just begun their duties for the day when they were caught by the metal.

THE MEN SHOULD WIN.

Calumet, Mich., Sept. 20.—In a communication addressed to Secretary Morrison by John B. Lennon, Treasurer of the American Federation of Labor, the following comments are made on the situation as he sees it: "Our meeting was a great success. The miners are in excellent humor and maintain the best of order under a mighty severe strain from the detectives and militia. The men ought to win, as the industry is really tied up. Employers, however, refuse to meet with any one representing the strikers to talk over the situation. If they continue to maintain that attitude, the fight will be continued all winter, and the strikers will require much help. Moyer and Monahan are both here and appear to have great influence with the strikers being apparently capable and careful fighters. The situation, in fact, at this time looks good." Gov. Ferris held a two hours' conference with Attorney General Fellows and other State officials, and a representative appearing in behalf of the miners. At the conclusion of the conference the Governor and head of the State Railroad Commission took up the matter of aribtration with representatives of the company, as a plan had been devised which it was thought might lead up to an aribtration and result in settlement of the strike. The plan agreed upon, it is said, will result in the withdrawal of the Western Federation of Miners from the controversy. That the managers of the copper companies should request the strikers to return to work and that then the Governor appoint a board of arbitration to investigate the grievances of the strikers, leaving the three points of difference, namely, an eight-hour day, increased wages, and the placing of two men on a machine instead of one to be disposed of by arbitration. On submission of this proposition to Allen F. Rees, attorney for the mine owners, he telegraphed the Governor, as follows: "Cannot act along lines of your telegram, because of conditions which seem to make it impossible." By the rejection of these overtures it would indicate that the strike will be continued indefinitely. One incident which occurred during the week has aroused the sympathy of the people in favor of the strikers.

During a parade an American flag was being carried by one of the paraders when the State cavalry dashed into the ranks of the marchers and the flag was torn from the carrier and trampled under the feet of the horses. This action caused such vigorous protest that a story was given out that the horses became unmanageable. Realizing the serious offense they had committed, the soldiers then gathered up the flag and returned it to its owner. When this incident was called to the attention of President Gompers, he said, "The mine owners have the government agencies at their disposal. They stop at nothing, not even to trampling down the nation's flag." He declared that the militia was at the command of the capitalists and that it was being used in Calumet to defeat the strike in which laborers were seeking to improve their conditions. The Calumet-Hecla company was organized in 1871, with a capital stock of $2,500,000, of which only $1,200,000 was paid in. It has paid $121,000,000 in dividends during the last forty years, an average of $3,000,000 a year, besides paying over $40,000,000 for equipment, including railway and transportation stock, and also investing about $25,000,000 in other mines. Quincy Adams Shaw, president of the company, draws a salary of $100,000 a year as president and $20,000 a year as director. First vice president E. L. Agassiz draws $50,000 a year as vice president, and $20,000 as a director. James McNaughton, the "big boss" and king of the copper company, draws $25,000 a year as second vice president, $20,000 as director, and $40,000 as general manager. Several other officers also draw princely salaries. These facts are given to prove that the company is able to meet the demands of the men and still make 300 per cent dividends for the stockholders.

COPPER DIVIDENDS CUT.

New York, Sept. 20.—Dividend action by mining companies whose properties are in the Lake Superior region gave further evidence of the effect of the prolonged strike following a reduction of the Calumet and Hecla's quarterly disbursement a few days ago. It was learned that Directors of the Wolverine Mining Company had decided to postpone a vote on the semi-annual payment due on October 1 until the strike was ended and the mines again producing ore. The company has been paying $10 a year since the rate was lowered from $17.50 in 1908. The Copper Range Consolidated Company cut its quarterly return to shareholders from 75 cents a share to 50 cents. The latest news from the scene of trouble goes to show that the deadlock between employers and the union miners in the affected territory is holding as rigidly as at any time since the strike was called nine weeks ago.

CIGARMAKERS.

Chicago, Sept. 20.—The approval of the Cigarmakers' International Union has been given to the local unions in Newark, N. J.; Dubuque, Iowa, and Hibbing, Minn., to seek a revision of their scales of prices to a higher level, these revisions affecting approximately 500 cigarmakers. The local union of cigarmakers in Boston is urging the Representatives in Congress from Massachusetts to use their influence to prevent any increase in the number of Philippine cigars coming into this country.

SECURE CLOSED SHOP.

Dallas, Sept. 20.—The Building Trades Council has finally succeeded in securing an agreement from the Slaughter Construction Co., one of the largest employers of labor in this city, which has previously been in the habit of working a few non-union men on all of its jobs. At last the building trades organizations have become sufficiently united to force the issue, and a decision was made to do away with the "open shop" policy, and the company will hereafter employ union men.

CARPENTERS' WAGES ADVANCED

Liverpool, England, Sept. 20.—Further advances of wages amounting to 1-4d. and 1-2d. per hour have been announced by the executive council of the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners. These advances will apply to seventeen centers, including Grimsby, Bishop Auckland, Shrewsbury, Forfar, and Hereford.

SUSPENDER MAKERS ON STRIKE.

New York, Sept. 20.—More than 250 suspender trimming makers have been on strike for the last three weeks for a fifty-three-hour work week, a 20 per cent increase in wages and recognition of the Suspender Trimming Workers' Union, affiliated with the A. F. of L. The bosses have formed an association among themselves to fight the union.

PEARL BUTTON WORKERS WIN.

New York, Sept. 20.—After a bitter struggle lasting twenty weeks, the pearl button workers who were on strike for a shorter workday, an increase in wages and recognition of their union, won all their demands, the outstanding bosses yielding after a lengthy conference. As a result, 800 workers have returned to work, 700 of the 1,500 originally involved having previously made settlements with these bosses. Four representatives of the organization, the Pearl Button Workers' Union, Local 14077, of the A. F. of L., were in conference with the bosses several hours before the settlement was reached. The A. F. of L. financed the lengthy struggle. Only one boss, employing twelve workers, refused to yield, and the strike will continue at his place. P. F. Duffy, the A. F. of L. organizer, who has been prominent in the fight, declared yesterday afternoon: "The settlement is a clean-cut victory for the workers. It has taught the bosses a lesson in that they cannot beat a mass of strongly organized insistent workers. The organization has been materially strengthened by the strike. The workers stuck together valiantly." The victorious workers will only work nine hours per day hereafter instead of the ten and twelve hours, as before, and they will get increases in wages varying from 10 to 20 per cent. The bosses have agreed to recognize the union.

FAVOR MUNICIPAL CAR LINE.

San Francisco, Cal., Sept. 20.—This city's recent 3 to 1 vote in favor of municipal railway bonds seems to have started a wave of city ownership sentiment. The transbay cities have decided that they would like to follow suit. To that end a conference of the Mayors of Berkeley, Oakland and Alameda has been called to devise means of taking over the traction lines in those communities, which now are owned by F. M. Smith, the "borax king." Such a move toward municipal ownership may be made under a law that passed the last Legislature. This new statute provides that cities or towns in one or more counties may combine themselves into a "public utility" district to construct or acquire public works to meet the people's needs. The bill became operative on August 11. It is fashioned after a similar law which permits the consolidation of communities to create a water district for the municipal ownership of waterworks.

WANT MORE WAGES.

Milwaukee, Wis., Sept. 20.—After several unsuccessful attempts to meet with members of the National Marble Dealers' Association in order to discuss the increase in wages demanded by Marble Workers' Helpers' Union No. 78, in Milwaukee and other cities in the State, more than sixty-five members of the union have gone on strike. With them went members of Marble Workers' Union No. 9, out in sympathy, and the entire city is now tied up, with the exception of two buildings, which contracts the Pickel Marble Company, of St. Louis, an independent concern, has. This firm has conceded to the demands of the union. The helpers ask for an increase from $2.50 to $3 per day. The Building Trades Council has indorsed the demands made by the union, and if any attempt is made to put nonunion men on the work in place of the strikers the entire building trades craft will be called out.

DOING EFFECTIVE WORK.

Nashville, Tenn., Sept. 20.—A feeling of brotherhood that organizers are rapidly transforming into a passion, according to reports, threatens to result in a sympathetic strike on the part of the miners of East Tennessee and Southern Kentucky for their fellow laborers, the West Virginia miners. It is said that a "walkout" is almost inevitable, and is expected to take place within the near future. It is said that organizers are at work at Madisonville and Stearnes, Ky., and have succeeded in arousing sentiment among the miners to a degree that they are ready to lay down their shovels and picks at a word's notice from their leaders. Knowing positively that a sympathetic strike is being planned, and fearing that violence may result, the Governor has been asked for aid, and it is probable that troops will be dispatched to the scene to prevent, if possible, the work of organization now being done.

FRIENDLY TO LABOR UNIONS.

Washington, Sept. 20.—The most important matter acted upon at the closing session of the Red Men was the passing of a resolution defining the attitude of the order toward labor unions. On the first day of the convention a motion to have the union label placed on all Red Men stationery was ruled out of order, but fearing that this action would give the impression that the order opposed the labor unions, a resolution was passed declaring that the order was favorable to labor unions, but could not take a stand against nonunion labor by having the union label put on its stationery. It was declared that the order was neither a political nor a religious body, and has both union and nonunion members. It was stated, however, that its printing was done in union shops by union labor.

FIRST SIGNED CONTRACT.

Washington, Sept. 20.—The machinists and other shop crafts have signed an agreement with the Denver and Salt Lake Railway Company providing for an increase in wages of 1 cent per hour and a 9-hour day until April 1, 1914, at which time the 8-hour day goes into effect. This is the first signed contract the unions have had with the management of the Moffat road.

SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGN.

Ottawa, Canada, Sept. 20.—The International Brotherhood of Bookbinders is making splendid progress in Western Canada. The campaign now on is being very successful and reports from Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, are to the effect that large numbers are being initiated into all of the unions. Prospects are that the Bookbinders will succeed in pretty thoroughly organizing that section of Canada.

PROSPER BY OPPOSITION.

Pretoria, Transvaal, Sept. 20.—One of the most striking effects of the recent industrial upheaval on the Rand has been the great increase in the membership of the various trade unions. Men have been joining in great numbers, and the railways, which are state-owned, have about 78 per cent of their daily paid employes in one union.

FOUR HUNDRED MINERS STRIKE

Charleston, W. Va., Sept. 20.—Four hundred miners, employes of the Mecca Coal and Coke Company on Morris Creek, struck, demanding the reinstatement of one of their number who had been discharged. Morris Creek is north of Paint and Cabin Creeks in the Kanawha coal field.

WHAT THE FIGURES SHOW.

Washington, Sept. 20.—Striking figures are represented in the report just completed by the Bureau of Statistics in regard to union scales of wages and hours of labor throughout the United States for the years 1907 to 1912, inclusive. Wages have been increased and hours have been decreased within the last six years in thirty-nine of the most important industrial centers. The data were furnished by the officials of labor unions, and the information used was taken from wage scales, written agreements, and trade union records wherever available. Figures in the table are based on a comparison of rates of wages on May 15 of each year, and the hours prevailing during the whole year. The following figures are the result of a comparison of the hours of labor per week in 1912 with those of 1907, and the wages are those of May 15, 1912, compared with those of May 15, 1907. So are the figures shown in the following table:

Occupations.	Per cent of decrease in hours per week: 1912 compared with 1907.	Per cent of increase in wages per hour: May 15, 1912, compared with May 15, 1907.
BAKERY TRADES.		
Bakers, first hands	17.7	22.0
Bakers, second hands	6.6	26.6
Bakers, third hands	10.1	40.7
BUILDING TRADES.		
Bricklayers	2.1	5.5
Building laborers	2.5	6.5
Carpenters	1.2	11.1
Cement workers (finishers)	1.8	5.7
Cement workers' helpers	.7	16.2
Cement workers' laborers	1.4	17.5
Gas fitters	.1	9.1
Hod carriers	3.0	6.9
Inside wiremen	1.3	15.4
Inside wiremen's helpers	2.6	11.7
Marble setters	1.5	5.1
Painters	1.9	12.6
Plasterers	.9	6.0
Plasterers' laborers	1.0	8.2
Plumbers	1.2	10.7
Sheet-metal workers	1.7	12.9
Steam fitters	2.0	13.1
Steam fitters' helpers	1.7	15.1
Stonemasons	1.8	5.8
Structural iron workers	2.7	11.1
MARBLE AND STONE TRADES.		
Granite cutters	2.0	5.3
Stonecutters	.5	1.6
METAL TRADES.		
Blacksmiths	2.1	10.3
Blacksmiths' helpers	2.2	16.4
Boiler makers	1.6	15.6
Boiler makers' helpers	2.4	16.9
Core makers	2.3	13.8
Machinists	2.2	9.6
Molders, iron	1.3	7.4
Pattern makers, wood	2.8	8.3
PRINTING TRADES, BOOK AND JOB.		
Bookbinders	11.1	16.8
Compositors, book and job		10.0
Electrotypers:		
Batterymen and builders	4.2	17.8
Finishers	5.3	12.8
Molders	5.1	12.7
Linotype operators	.2	7.0
Press feeders	9.8	22.6
Pressmen, cylinder presses	6.0	21.0
Pressmen, platen presses	5.1	14.8
PRINTING TRADES, NEWSPAPER.		
Compositors, day work	.5	10.4
Compositors, night work	.1	6.1
Linotype operators, day work	.4	8.6
Linotype operators, night work	.3	5.9
Pressmen, web presses, day work	1.5	12.1
Pressmen, web presses, night work	1.5	9.1
Stereotypers, day work	1.7	9.1
Stereotypers, night work	1.6	9.0

TO AID WORLD'S WORKERS.

Berne, Sept. 20.—An international conference for the protection of workers, convoked by the Swiss Federal Council, opened here Tuesday last. E. Schulthess, head of the Swiss Department of Commerce, Industry, and Agriculture, delivered a speech, in which he laid stress on the importance of a conference which has been called by the International Association for the Protection of Workers, with the object of preparing conventions limiting the working day to ten hours for women and young industrial laborers, and also forbidding the employment of the latter in night work. He asked that the Federal Council invite other governments to send delegates to this conference.

MACHINISTS' STRIKE ADJUSTED.

Buffalo, N. Y., Sept. 20.—The strike of Machinists which has been on here for the past eight weeks has been won and with the exception of one shop all have signed agreements covering a fifty-hour week with an increase in wages all around. The fight was for the recognition of the union and for a nine-hour day instead of the ten-hour in force at the time of the strike being called. One firm is still holding out, the Wittmer Company, trading also under the name of the Fitch Engineering Company, making Brewers' supplies. They are employing only twenty men.

BLACKSMITHS.

Chicago, Sept. 20.—President Kline, of the International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths and Helpers, expects that the coming convention of the brotherhood, which convenes in Sedalia, Mo., October 6, will be made up of a large number of delegates. The convention will undoubtedly make provision for an extended organizing campaign. Unions of blacksmiths have recently been organized at the following places: Coalgate, Okla.; Sedalia, Mo.; Boston, Mass.; Asheville, N. C.; Schenectady, N. Y.; New York, N. Y.; Portsmouth, Va.; Renton, Wash, and Superior, Wis.

WON THEIR BATTLE.

London, Sept. 20.—After a long and hard struggle, lasting many weeks, the Jewish Tailors and Tailoresses' Trade Union has won a great victory. The employers agree to reinstate all employes engaged in the dispute, to dismiss blackleg labor, to grant a 10½-hour working day, and to recognize Trade Unions. The terms of agreement were arranged at a joint conference of workers and employers which lasted nine hours.

SCHOOL TO PREVENT CRIME.

Washington, Sept. 20.—The establishment of a laboratory for the study of criminal, pauper and defective classes, the work to include also the collection of sociological and pathological information, is called for in a bill introduced in the House by Representative O'Leary of New York. The proposed institution will be located in the District of Columbia.

COPPER SITUATION SERIOUS.

New York, Sept. 20.—The restriction of output at the Michigan copper mines, coupled with a demand which gives no sign of abating, is apparently looked upon in the engineering world as a serious matter.

"We are at the present time witnessing a remarkable situation in copper," says The Engineering and Mining Journal, "the world's stock having been reduced to the lowest figure on record since the American statistics have been reported, while the demand for consumption continues unabated. The statistical position was already strong before the Michigan strike occurred. The cessation of copper from that source was felt very quickly, inasmuch as that copper does not have to be refined electrolytically, and goes directly from the smelteries near the mines to the consumers. Whereas in the case of electrolytic copper about three months from mine to consumer is a normal time. Lake copper is ordinarily less than a month in transit.

"It appears now that the Michigan strike is going to be a long drawn-out affair. Even if it were settled tomorrow it would be many months before the former rate of production could be regained. Many of the mines are filling with water, and the exodus of miners from the district will produce a shortage of labor that will check operations for a long time. Eventually the companies probably will have to offer higher wages in order to secure the men that they want. In the meanwhile the producers of electrolytic copper can offer only partial assistance, inasmuch as the refineries of the country are already being operated at nearly their full capacity.

"The copper market has consequently worked itself into a dangerous position."

BREAKING POWER OF THE TRUST

Washington, Sept. 20.—An English builder was awarded the contract for turbine drums for the newest American battleship No. 39 at a little more than one-third the price offered by the lowest American bidder. The accepted bid, $57,436, was submitted by New York agents of the Cyclops Steel and Iron Works, Sheffield, England. It is exceptional for the Navy Department to send a contract abroad, but Acting Secretary Roosevelt held that the action today was justified by the tremendous difference between the English and American prices. The Sheffield bid includes the payment of duty, and by giving the work to the foreign builder the United States saves more than $100,000. There were two American bidders, the Bethlehem Steel Company, $169,568, and the Midvale Steel Company, $160,272.

COMPANY LIABLE FOR DAMAGE.

Washington, Sept. 20.—A yard clerk was killed while proceeding through railway yards to meet an incoming interstate freight train for the purpose of taking down the numbers and initials on the cars, of inspecting and making a record of the seals on the car doors, of checking the cars on the conductor's list, and of labeling them to guide the switching crews. The Supreme Court of the United States held, in the case of St. Louis, &c., Railway Company vs. Seale, that the yard clerk was employed in interstate commerce within the meaning of the employers' liability act of April 22, 1908, giving a right of recovery against a carrier for the death of an employe while so employed, although the yard might be a terminal for the particular train by which he was killed, and none of the cars were going to points beyond.

ABATEMENT FOR INJURY.

Washington, Sept. 20.—The New York Court of Appeals held, in the case of Gorlitzer vs. Wolffberg, that an action by a husband to recover for loss of services of his wife and the expenses resulting from her personal injuries caused by the negligence of the defendant abated with the death of the latter, and that the question whether such an action abated or survived against the defendant's estate was determined by the statute relating to the survival of actions which was in force at the date of the defendant's death.

COMMISSION CONFIRMED.

Washington, Sept. 20.—The Senate confirmed the nominations of the Commission on Industrial Relations, which was sent to the Senate by President Wilson several weeks ago. The nominations had been held up in the Committee on Education and Labor. Senator Hoke Smith, chairman of the committee, had a meeting and reported them to the Senate. John B. Lennon, Treasurer, and James O'Connell, third Vice President of the American Federation of Labor, are members of the commission.

MOVIES ORGANIZED.

Des Moines, Ia., Sept. 20.—A new union of Theatrical Stage Employees, composed of moving picture operators, has just been completed, thus adding another union to the list already doing active work in Des Moines. In spite of the opposition offered to unionism by the Business Men's League they still continue to grow and prosper. In fact, the opposition has materially benefited the cause and more and more unions are now in existence than previously, through their pronounced antagonism.

MAKING AN INVESTIGATION.

Ottawa, Ontario, Sept. 20.—Charles G. Wood and Frank M. Bump, of Boston, delegated to investigate the working of the industrial disputes act, have arrived here. During their stay in Ottawa they will confer with F. A. Acland, deputy minister of labor; J. C. Watters, president of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress, and others closely related to the administration of the act.

INCREASED WAGES.

San Francisco, Sept. 20.—The Southern Pacific Railroad Company has entered into an agreement with the Order of Railroad Telegraphers whereby 1,200 telegraphers employed by the company will receive an increase of 10 per cent in wages and a reduction of one hour per day in their workday. The agreement, which was concluded yesterday, dates back to September 1.

GARMENT WORKERS GET RAISE

Dallas, Tex., Sept. 20.—A new price list has been negotiated between the union clothing manufacturers of this city and local union, No. [illegible], of the United Garment Workers, whereby they will receive a slight increase in wages as well as better working conditions. Miss Marguerite Daley, International Organizer, assisted the local union in completing the new agreement.

DIVIDENDS INCREASED.

St. Paul, Minn., Sept. 20.—Negotiations have been pending since May last between the Typographical Union, No. 30, and the publishers of this city, as a result of a demand made for an increase in wages. The pending dispute has been adjusted and an agreement reached between the parties named above. The result is a new scale, which will run five years, from July 1, 1913, to May 1, 1918, and all increases in pay are retroactive to the first of last May. Journeymen will receive $26.16 per week for day work and $29.28 for night work. The old scale provided $24.50 for day work and $27.50 for night work. The rate per hour under the old scale was 51 cents per hour for day work and 57 1-4 cents per hour for night work. The new scale is 54 1-2 cents for day work and 61 cents for night work. Overtime shall be paid for at the rate of price and one-half. A week's work shall consist of not more than 48 hours or not less than 45.

WHY THEY DIDN'T SHOOT.

Johannesburg, Sept. 20.—Sensational stories are current regarding the conference between the government officials and mine leaders, which resulted in a settlement of the gold mine strike on the Rand on July 5 last. Some of the labor leaders assert that Gen. Louis Botha, former premier of the Union of South Africa, and Gen. Smuts, Minister of the Interior, Mines, and Defense, were compelled at the point of a revolver to sign the agreement. Gen. Smuts has issued a denial of this. After the settlement was signed at the Carlton Hotel, according to Secretary Bain, of the Trades Federation, and Secretary Mathews, of the Miners' Association, all the conferees stood on the balcony of the hotel and observed soldiers with rifles leveled ready to fire at the crowd of demonstrators in the street. Two of the labor leaders again covered Gen. Botha and Gen. Smuts with revolvers. "One more shot and you are dead," said one of them. The ministers thereupon commanded the soldiers not to shoot.

JAPAN'S UNEMPLOYED PROBLEM

Tokyo, Japan, Sept. 20.—Like many other great cities, Tokyo has an unusually large number of unemployed, and it is increasing at an alarming figure. Many of those locating here come from the country with high ambitions. In a short time they discover that all desirable positions have been previously preempted and find it extremely difficult to secure employment. This summer the number of unemployed has been exceptionally large, most of the men being in the prime of life, and are sometimes found in desperate condition, wanting for the actual necessaries of life and having nothing to eat for days at a time. This same condition is reported to be true of many of the larger cities, and no doubt is one of the causes which is forcing the government to seek some place to locate this large surplus in order to avoid serious complications, and a probable revolution, unless some means is secured to relieve the extraordinary pressure that is felt at the present time.

CLERKS IN REVOLT.

London, Sept. 20.—The "black-coated" worker made his first demonstration in Hyde Park this afternoon in favor of trades unionism, following tactics similar to those adopted by the laborer and artisan, who held meetings in the vicinity. The participants, many of whom were women, were all clerks representing a great variety of employment. They marched from the Thames embankment to Hyde Park wearing black masks, with the declared object of "avoiding victimization." Sandwich boards carried in the procession informed interested persons that 25 per cent of the clerks die of consumption in consequence of the wretched conditions under which they are forced to work. Speakers drew a lurid picture of the underpayment of the clerks, the insanitary conditions prevailing in a majority of the offices and stores, and the slave-driving methods of employers.

MACHINISTS WIN NINE HOURS.

Toledo, Sept. 20.—By an amicable agreement between the manager of the Toledo Bridge and Crane Company and the representatives of the Machinists' Union, a strike against that firm has been declared off. An agreement has been entered into whereby the nine-hour day will go into effect October 20, all of the strikers returning to work. The gain proves the value of a strong organization, and the result is creditable to the Machinists' Union and will greatly increase the membership. Fifty-three names have been added to the roster during the past month.

AN EXPENSIVE STRIKE.

Buffalo, Sept. 20.—An explosion occurred in the main plant of the Clover Leaf Milling Company last week, injuring about twenty-five men, several of whom were taken to the hospital, where their injuries were pronounced serious. The plant was partially ruined, suffering a loss of some $50,000 or more. The cause of the explosion was alleged to have been the employment of new men to take the place of the workmen who struck recently for more wages.

NEW WAGE SCALE.

San Jose, Cal., Sept. 20.—The Stereotypers have negotiated a new wage scale, said to be the best in the country for small towns, which provides for an increase of 50 cents per day in wages. The new scale is as follows: Foreman, $5.50; journeymen, $4.50; apprentices, first year $2; second year, $2.25; third year, $2.50; fourth year, $3; fifth year, $3.50.

TEAMSTERS' STRIKE ENDS.

Cincinnati, Sept. 20.—The strike of the Teamsters, which has been in progress for the past two months, has terminated, the men returning to work at increased wages and improved working conditions. The men will maintain their organization and strive to increase its membership, which now approximates close to 4,000 in the various unions.

ANNOUNCE PIECE WORK.

Newport News, Sept. 20.—The Newport News Drydock Company has notified the boilermakers in its employ that all boiler construction work hereafter will be paid for on a piece work basis. It is stated that the boilermakers will resist this change, and that the other trades are in full sympathy with the boilermakers.

WANT MORE WAGES.

Indianapolis, Ind., Sept. 20.—The Moving Picture Operators of this city presented a demand for an increase in wages from $18 to $23 a week, and also a lessening of the excessively long hours they have heretofore worked. Proprietors refused to make the concessions and all of the operators left their machines.

AWFUL FATALITIES.

New York, Sept. 20.—In testifying before the arbitrators now hearing the evidence in the dispute between the railroad firemen and the railroads of the East, of which Mr. Seth Low was chosen chairman, A. P. Garretson, President of the Conductors' organization, and William G. Lee, President of the Trainmen's Union, brought out some astonishing facts relative to the injury and fatality of railroad employes. One of the points emphasized by both of them was the increased risk entailed in handling the heavy tonnage of a modern railroad train. Mr. Lee said that his organization, which includes brakemen, flagmen, and baggagemen, had paid benefits last year for an average of one man killed or totally disabled every seven hours and fifteen minutes, and that a man was injured every nine minutes, although some of the injuries were trivial. When the statement of William Lee was challenged by counsel for the railroads, he cited statistics from the Interstate Commerce Commission's report. This report, on June 30 last, gave 3,635 railroad employes killed in the United States during the year. Mr. Garretson argued that doubling the amount of tonnage to a train doubled the risk, as well as the responsibility, on the trainmen. Some of the economies introduced by the management also increased the risk of the men, and the economies were paid for out of the benefit fund of the unions.

TO ADOPT A. F. OF L. PLAN.

Paris, France, Sept. 20.—The French General Confederation of Labor is said to be split into two factions, one known as the "Red," and the other as the "Yellow," designated as the conservative and the revolutionary groups. Other subdivisions are also said to exist as the result of cynicalism and opposition to three-year service in the army. One faction today is advocating a general strike. The other and larger group is inviting labor unions to redouble their activities and is encouraging the growing opposition among the working classes. This last is the official attitude of the Confederation of Labor, and as the "Reds" are dominant, this rather vague program is taken by the French government as a sign that the numerous arrests of labor leaders, for anti-military teachings, have had effect. It is predicted that the Confederation will scarcely need a dissolution order from the government, but that it will fall of its own accord. Whatever happens, there is a strong movement on foot throughout France among labor leaders to build up a new Confederation upon the ruins of the old, patterning it as far as possible after the American Federation of Labor in the United States.

RAILROAD MEN FEDERATING.

New Haven, Conn., Sept. 20.—The conductors' organization met here and favorably considered the plan which has already been indorsed by other labor bodies among the train operatives of the New Haven Railroad. Heretofore the engineers, the firemen, the trainmen, and the conductors have not been closely allied and were not at all apt to support each other by sympathetic strikes. Now it was learned that because of the attitude taken toward the men by General Manager Bardo and Vice President Whaley, so much dissatisfaction has been engendered among all the operating department laborers that they are perfecting a federation plan under which each of the brotherhoods will retain its individual organization while at the same time being a part of the large unit for the purpose of dealing with the New Haven Railroad management concerning working conditions.

CONDITION SERIOUS.

Dublin, Sept. 20.—All of the farm hand have joined the tramway workers i sympathetic strike. The movement is b coming political and the situation is ra idly getting critical. Thousands hav also joined in a sympathetic strike Glasgow, seriously interfering with th marine traffic. The London omnib drivers have also joined in the mov ment, which is sweeping over the Briti Isles. Three thousand freight handle are idle in Birmingham. Much peris able fruit is going to ruin in the freig houses. The strike is spreading also Liverpool; 500 of the railroad employ being already idle. The Irish strike lea ers are trying to spread the walkout ov the entire British Isles, and conditio are becoming very serious here.

FOR ALASKA RAILROAD.

Washington, Sept. 20.—Representati Bryan of Washington has introduced the House a facsimile of the Senat Poindexter Bill, providing for governme ownership and operation of railroads a coal mines in Alaska. This measure p vides for the regulation of the hours labor, profit-sharing plans for emplo in the coal mines and drastic regulatio to prevent any private interests gaini an advantage in Alaska mineral r sources.

HOW WAGES HAVE ADVANCE

London, Sept. 20.—At a meeting Northumberland miners and coalowne at Newcastle recently the wages we advanced 3 3-4 per cent, making the ra of underground men and banksmen [illegible] per cent above the basis of 1879. T wages of surfacemen are 42 per ce above the same standard. In less th two years miners' wages in Northu berland have gone up 25 per cent.

MINERS FIND MUCH WORK.

Newcastle, England, Sept. 20.—T Northumberland Miners' Association only sending one candidate for a yea instruction at Ruskin College, Oxfo this year, it being stated that full e ployment and the good wages now p vailing in the country may account the falling off of miners' candidates the college.

NEW PLUMBERS' UNION.

Sudbury, Ontario, Canada, Sept. 20.— new organization of Plumbers and Fitters has just been completed with a 100 per cent membership. Org izer John Bruce completed the new and it is hoped that it will be one the live factors in the labor moveme of this city.